

## Message Text

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43

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

COA-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 L-03

NSF-04 NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SS-20 SPC-03

FEA-02 DRC-01 /143 W

----- 078886

R 251305Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7295

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0594

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, PBOR, PFOR, FI, GE, GW, PL, UR, SW, DA

SUBJECT: BALTIC SEA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION CONVENTION

SIGNED

1. SUMMARY: A CONVENTION TO PROTECT BALTIC SEA FROM POLLUTION HAS BEEN SIGNED BY THE SEVEN LITTORAL COUNTRIES. SIGNATORIES UPON RATIFICATION ARE COMMITTEE TO CONTROL THROUGH NATIONAL LEGISLATION POLLUTION OF BALTIC BY THEIR NATIONALS.

2. A CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE BALTIC SEA FROM POLLUTION WAS SIGNED IN HELSINKI ON MARCH 22 BY MINISTERIAL LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL OF THE COUNTRIES WITH BALTIC COASTLINES--NAMELY, THE USSR, SWEDEN, POLAND, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNCLASSIFIED

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GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, DENMARK, AND FINLAND.

NORWAY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ATTENDED AS OBSERVERS AS DID REPRESENTATIVES OF FAO AND ECOSOC. FINLAND HAD TAKEN THE INITIATIVE FOR THE MEETING, AND HELSINKI WILL BE THE LOCATION INITIALLY AT LEAST, OF THE PROVISIONAL COMMISSION WHICH IS TO BE NAMED AND TO MEET BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1974. LATER A PERMANENT COMMISSION WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO SUPERVISE THE CARRYING OUT OF THE TERMS OF THE CONVENTION.

3. THE CONVENTION MUST BE RATIFIED BY ALL OF THE SIGNATORIES, IT IS HOPED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR. IT WILL ALSO BE NECESSARY FOR EACH OF THE SIGNATORY NATIONS TO PASS NATIONAL LEGISLATION TO CARRY OUT ITS OBLIGATIONS TO PROTECT THE BALTIC FROM POLLUTION. SEVERAL OF THE DELEGATES CHARACTERIZED THE CONVENTION, SAID TO BE THE FIRST SUCH MULTI-NATIONAL AGREEMENT TO PROTECT "AN ENTIRE SEA ENVIRONMENT," AS COMING NOT A MINUTE TOO SOON. THE BALTIC, BECAUSE THE DENMARK STRAITS ARE NARROW AND RELATIVELY SHALLOW, IS SIMILAR IN SOME WAYS TO A VERY LARGE LAKE AND THUS QUITE VULNERABLE TO POLLUTION BUILD-UP.

4. TEXT OF CONVENTION WILL BE SUBMITTED BY AIRGRAM AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

KREHBIEL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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